(c) and (d) The green revolution experienced in India paid rich dividends and the country became self-sufficient in food grains. The Eleventh Five Year Plan has set a target to accelerate agricultural growth to 4% per annum. The Plan envisages improving efficiency of investment, bringing technologies to the farmers and diversifying agriculture to enhance farmers' income while also protecting food security. The Plan also envisages greater focus on research in strategic areas to evolve cropping systems suited to various agro-climatic zones, and on raising the yield potential in rain-fed areas.

Death of animals due to Anthrax disease

928. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of cattle/animals have died in various parts of the country due to Anthrax disease;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any survey in this regard to find out the exact cause of spread of Anthrax disease in animals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further steps contemplated to provide help to the State Governments to face the challenge of disease in animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Sporadic occurrences of Anthrax have been reported in animals. During the year 2008 and 2009 (up to June), 710 and 274 animals died due to this disease. State-wise details are enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Anthrax is zoonotic disease caused by a bacteria called *Bacillus anthracis* which produced spores. These spores survive in soil for years and under favorable conditions gain entry into the animal body causing the disease. Investigations are routinely carried out in the event of any outbreak by collecting samples from the sick/dead animals for microbiological analysis. The soil samples in the affected areas are also tested to determine the source of infection.

In the event of any outbreak following steps are taken to check the spread of the disease:—

- Vaccination of all susceptible animals within a radius of 10 Kms from the site of outbreak of Anthrax disease.
- Scientific disposal of carcass through burial
- Disinfection of the cattle shed and premises where outbreak has been confirmed.
- Creation of awareness among farmers in regard to the disease.

Funds are provided to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH&DC)' for undertaking vaccination against Anthrax.

Statement

Reported occurrences of Anthrax during 2008 *and* 2009 *(upto June)*

2008

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of outbreaks	Species affected	Number of animals affected	Number of animals died
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26	Bovine	24	22
			Ovine/Caprine	51	51
2.	Chhattisgarh	1	Not specified	5	5
3.	Gujarat	1	Bovine	12	12
4.	Karnataka	10	Bovine	27	27
			Buffalo	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	457	412
5.	Kerala	3	Bovine	2	2
			Buffalo	1	1
			Swine	1	1
6.	Maharashtra	2	Bovine	205	39
			Ovine/Caprine	5	5
7.	Orissa	5	Bovine	56	55
8.	Tamil Nadu	11	Bovine	30	29
			Ovine/Caprine	3	3
9.	West Bengal	10	Bovine	43	43
10.	Pondicherry	2	Bovine	2	2
	TOTAL:	72	Bovine	401	231
			Buffalo	2	2
			Swine	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	516	471
			Not specified	5	5
	GRAND TOTAL:	72	—	925	710

1	2	3	4	5	6
2009					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	Bovine	12	12
			Ovine/Caprine	188	121
2.	Karnataka	8	Bovine	7	7
			Buffalo	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	7	7
3.	Kerala	5	Bovine	6	6
4.	Orissa	5	Bovine	36	34
			Swine	68	68
5.	Tamil Nadu	1	Bovine	2	2
6.	West Bengal	3	Bovine	22	16
	TOTAL:	31	Bovine	85	77
			Buffalo	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	195	128
			Swine	68	68
	GRAND TOTAL:	31	—	349	274

Shortage of foodgrains

†929. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government accepts that the target of 'Right to Food' will not be achieved due to drought;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the plan of Government to control the imbalance of growing number of poors and decreasing foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Right to Food will not be affected due to drought as the Government proposes to enact a new law the "National Food Security Act", to provide on a statutory basis,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.